

INFORMATION PAPER

DAMO-SSF

14 FEB 2001

Subject: FAO In-Country Training Program – Chile

1. **Purpose:** To provide a summary of the FAO in-country training program and facilities in Chile to assist in selection and preparation of replacement personnel. Projected in-country trainees should use the information provided to assist in their transition. It is also recommended that projected FAOs contact the current FAO in Chile as soon as possible for additional information.

2. **Facts:**

a. Summary of Program

(1) Tour length is 13 months with a normal arrival and departure date in January.

(2) One FAO conducts ICT in Chile each year. FAO attends the Academia de Guerra for the Curso Regular del Estado Mayor. School dates are from mid-February to mid-December. The course is a three-year school for Chilean Majors and Colonels. In the past the FAO attended the second year of the course; however, the current FAO is in the process of trying to change the program to attend the third year. The third year covers joint operations and includes extensive travel with the class throughout Chile.

(3) FAOs in Chile conduct regional travel before, during and after completion of the course. There are breaks during the course; however the schedule changes every year.

(4) FAOs are immersed in the language during the duration of the course; therefore no other language training is available.

(5) Prerequisites: CPT/MAJ; Branch immaterial; Spanish DLPT 2/2.

b. POV: Each FAO is authorized to ship one POV. Contact Embassy if planning to ship a POV older than 2 years, as a waiver may be required. The FAO must obtain a Chilean National ID card before he will be able to register a car. This process takes anywhere from 4-6 weeks after arrival and requires the turn-in of your official passport to the embassy. Given this, arriving FAOs cannot take a trip out of the country until the process is complete. Current FAO is attempting to find a way to complete this process prior to arrival. Bottom line is

that even if you ship your POV early from the States it will sit at the embassy until you have your Chilean National ID card.

c. Household Goods: FAOs are authorized full shipment.

d. Housing: Officer receives Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA) and must arrange for privately leased housing. FAO should be prepared to pay for first month's rent and a security deposit upon arrival (approximately \$3000-\$4000) because it takes some time for housing allowances to start. Before signing lease FAO must ensure housing meets all embassy requirements. Current house has been used by previous 5 FAOs. The house is a four bedroom with yard and meets all embassy requirements. It includes a washer/dryer and American-size refrigerator. The owner is a Colonel in the Chilean Air Force and would like to continue to rent to the American FAOs. Location is in the community of La Reina directly across the street from the War College. It is highly recommended that incoming FAOs stay with the current house due to its location close to the school.

e. Support Facilities

(1) Medical care is excellent in Chile. Embassy has a nurse and on occasions a doctor. Clínica Las Condes and Clínica Alemania are first class hospitals and fall under the Tricare LATAM program. Service member pays up front and then is reimbursed 4-6 weeks later.

(2) Dependent Schooling: Most embassy children attend Nido de Aguilas, a very good international school with an English curriculum. The British royal school will also take embassy students. There are also numerous other private schools in Santiago. School costs are covered by the government, but contact the embassy for further advice.

(3) PX/Commissary: FAO receives commissary privileges through the Embassy. This is currently a once-a-month flight from the States, but this program may be cut due to funding.

(4) APO: FAO receives all mail at the Embassy. Address is as follows:

Rank Name
USDAO Santiago
Unit 4115
APO AA 34033

(5) Rating Chain: Rater is the Army Attaché and Senior Rater is the Defense Attaché.

(6) FAO support comes out of the Defense Attaché Office in the US embassy. They can be contact by calling 011 56 2 330-3330 (from CONUS).

(7) FAO home phone is 011 56 2 273-2466. As long as FAOs occupy the current house this number will not change because it is in the owner's name.

3. Additional Information:

a. Bring military books and materials. They provide a good reference for classes.

b. Best means of contact to the states is e-mail. FAO should bring a personnel computer and acquire a free address (i.e. Hotmail) prior to arrival.

c. Bring complete array of Army Uniforms.

4. POC for this memo is current FAO.

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